

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) A heald frame for a weaving machine, said frame comprising two posts (4, 4') and two cross-members (6, 6'; 106; 106'), each cross-member being provided with a catching member (8, 8'; 108; 108') suitable for receiving a corresponding end of at least one heald (10; 110) of said frame, while there are also provided damping means (12, 12'; 112; 112') which are integral with at least one corresponding catching member (8, 8') or cross-member (106, 106') and against which at least one end of the heald is capable of coming to bear, wherein, at least when said frame is in the stationary state and when the heald is in a rectilinear configuration, when a first end (E) of the or of each heald (10; 110) is bearing either on a first catching member (8; 108) in the region of its traction zone (S₁; S₁₀₁) or on first damping means (12; 112) in the region of its compression zone (C₁; C₁₀₁), the other end (E') of the or of each heald (10; 110) bears substantially either on other damping means (12'; 112') in the region of its compression zone (C'₁; C'₁₀₁) or on another catching member (8'; 108') in the region of its traction zone (S'₁; S'₁₀₁).

2. (original) The heald frame as claimed in claim 1, wherein the damping means (12) are received in a receiver (10₄) of the heald (10), which receiver (10₄) is intended to receive the catching member (8)

3. (original) The heald frame as claimed in claim 1, wherein the damping means (112) are situated opposite a free end (E) of the heald (110), relative to a filiform body (110₂) of the heald.

4. (currently amended) The heald frame as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, wherein the or each heald (10) has, [[at]] at least one end, two principal limbs (10₃, 10'₃) defining a receiver (10₄, 10'₄) which opens in the direction towards a corresponding cross-member (6, 6') by way of a neck (10₆, 10'₆), while the corresponding catching member (8, 8') comprises a catching region (8₄, 8'₄) which extends during operation into said receiver, as well as an intermediate region (8₃, 8'₃) received in said neck during operation.

5. (currently amended) The heald frame as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~, wherein the or each heald (110) has, [[at]] at least one end, a principal limb (110₃) defining, with a tooth (110₃₁) and/or a return portion (110₃₂) of the heald, at least one receiving channel (110₄₁, 110₄₂), while the corresponding catching member (108) has a catching region (108₄) accommodated at least partly in the or each channel.

6. (currently amended) The heald frame as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, wherein the catching member (8, 8') is removably fixed to the cross-member (6, 6'), especially by cooperative shaping of two limbs (8₂₁, 8₂₂) of said catching member and facing walls (6₂, 6'₂) of the cross-member (6, 6')

7. (currently amended) The heald frame as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~, wherein the catching member (108,

108') is permanently fixed to the cross-member (106, 106'), especially by adhesive bonding or riveting.

8. (currently amended) The heald frame as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, wherein the or each catching member is formed of at least one folded metal sheet (8, 8').

9. (currently amended) The heald frame as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, wherein the damping means comprise a damping member (12, 12', 112, 112'), the profile of which is constant along the catching member.

10. (currently amended) A weaving machine (M) equipped with at least one heald frame (2) as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~.